

Funding included in House-passed Energy and Water Appropriations bill

Washington, DC - Today, Rep. Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) announced that he has secured \$250,000 for the removal or alteration of the Mon Maq Dam in Jones County and \$950,000 for the Center for Advanced Bio-Based Binders (CABB) and Pollution Reduction Technologies in Black Hawk County. The funding was included in the FY 2010 Energy and Water Appropriations bill House-Senate conference agreement, which was passed by the House 308-114.

"The funding I've secured in this bill will go toward important water and energy projects in the First District," Braley said. "Removing or improving the obsolete Mon Maq Dam will reduce the impact of flooding in Jones County. I'm also proud to fund projects like CABB that keep Iowa on the forefront of renewable resources research."

The \$250,000 will go to the Jones County Conservation Board to alter or remove the Mon Maq Dam on the Maquoketa River. The dam was constructed in the late 1800's and actually increases the area's risk of flooding.

The \$950,000 for UNI's CABB center will fund research into the development and utilization of bio-based binders and castings instead of traditional petroleum based systems. In applications like metal casting, petroleum-based binders are often used to make molds. CABB has been researching a renewable, bio-based alternative to these fossil fuel-based binders.

The Water and Energy Appropriations bill conference agreement now must be approved by the Senate before moving to President Obama for his signature.